



INSIGHTS

108th Congress

January 15, 2003

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INSIGHTS is prepared expressly for the Department of Energy's Office of Federal Energy Management Programs (FEMP). The purpose of ***INSIGHTS*** is to provide FEMP management staff with timely information on legislative activities relevant to the program. ***INSIGHTS*** is prepared for FEMP by Energetics, Incorporated, (202) 479-2748.

I. WEEKLY SUMMARY

CONGRESSIONAL SCHEDULE

No schedule has been announced, although Congress will be in session.

Republican Agenda The Republican agenda for the 108th Congress includes enacting legislation to address the following issues:

- Defense
- Education
- **Energy** – “Working to provide affordable, reliable energy and a clean environment – Republican energy policy will preserve the environment, provide affordable energy and protect our national security while encouraging economic growth.”
- Medicare
- Social Security
- Tax Relief
- Faith/Community

Democratic Agenda The Democratic agenda does not include energy as a priority, although the Democrats continue to favor passage of comprehensive energy legislation. Priorities for the 108th Congress include the following:

- National Security
- Employee Pensions
- Health Care
- Employee Wages
- Climate Change
- Civil Rights
- Veterans Issues

FY 2003 APPROPRIATIONS

General Status To date, two bills have been signed into law: Defense and Military Construction. In addition to these two bills, the House has cleared three additional bills (Agriculture and Related Agencies, Interior and Related Agencies, and Treasury and General Government); the Senate has not approved any additional bills beyond Defense and Military Construction.

Continuing Resolution – On January 7, *H.J. Res. 1* was introduced to extend until January 31, 2003, the operation of Federal programs under FY 2003 bills that have not cleared Congress; the bill was signed on January 10, becoming *P.L. 108-2*. A second bill, *H.J. Res. 2*, which will also extend funding until January 31, was introduced as a potential omnibus vehicle to combine all 11 remaining bills into one bill. *H.J. Res. 2* was approved by the House on January 8 and is pending in the Senate.

HOUSE

No activities of interest have been announced.

SENATE

FY 2003 Appropriations Mark up of the 11 remaining annual appropriations bills by the Committee on Appropriations has been stalled over a disagreement between the Republican and Democratic leadership. With the majority status shifting from the Democrats to the Republicans, a number of organizational issues need to be resolved, including funding for the operations of Senate committees and subcommittees. The controversy is over the Republican leadership position that Republicans would receive two-thirds of available funding for committee operations, giving Democrats one-third of the funds. Democrats believe that since the Republicans maintain a slim majority – funding should represent the marginal difference; Democrats are threatening to filibuster. In order to advance the appropriations process, the new Majority Leader Bill Frist (R/TN) and Minority Leader Tom Daschle (D/SD) are reportedly meeting to resolve this issue.

If an agreement cannot be reached, Senator Ted Stevens (R/AK), the new chair of the Committee on Appropriations, is expected to by-pass a full committee mark up and deliver the bills directly to the Senate floor as an omnibus bill – combining all 11 bills into one package. Once presented for Senate consideration as an omnibus bill, individual members or groups of Senators are expected to introduce amendments requiring additional funding beyond the President's request. The Administration is adamant about adhering to the President's \$750.5 billion funding cap, which will make quick passage of a Senate bill and a House and Senate conference unpredictable.

The Republican leadership would like to complete work on an omnibus bill before the President's State of the Union Address, which will be delivered on January 28.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEES/VOTES

No actions of interest to report.

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II. COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

HOUSE

Committee Chairs On January 9, Dennis Hastert (R/IL), the Speaker of the House, announced the following committee chairs of interest for the new 108th Congress:

- Committee on Agriculture – Bob Goodlatte (R/VA) **New Chair**
- Committee on Appropriations – Bill Young (R/FL)

- Committee on Armed Services – Duncan Hunter (R/CA) *New Chair*
- Committee on the Budget – Jim Nussle (R/IA)
- Committee on Energy and Commerce – Billy Tauzin (R/LA)
- Government Reform – Tom Davis (R/VA) *New Chair*
- Committee on Resources – Richard Pombo (R/CA) *New Chair*
- Committee on Science – Sherwood Boehlert (R/NY)
- Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure – Don Young (R/AK)
- Committee on Veterans Affairs – Chris Smith (R/NJ)

FY 2003 Appropriations for Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary On January 9, subcommittee chair, Frank Wolf (R/VA) introduced a \$41.1 billion bill to cover FY 2003 funding for programs under the subcommittee's jurisdiction. Key provisions of interest include:

The Judiciary

- U.S. Supreme Court Building - Unspecified funding to address long-overdue renovation

Department of State

- Embassies Worldwide - \$1.3 billion to continue worldwide security improvements and replacement of vulnerable embassies

FY 2003 Appropriations for Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education On January 9, subcommittee chair Ralph Regula (R/OH), marked up this bill providing \$130.9 billion for programs under its jurisdiction. No specific provisions of interest have been announced regarding facility construction and renovation projects for the Departments of Labor (e.g., Job Corps Centers) and the Health and Human Services (e.g., Centers for Disease Control).

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SENATE

Committee Chairs Since the official reorganization of the Senate is still pending (transfer of leadership from Democrats to Republicans), committee chairs have not been announced; however, the following members are expected to assume committee chairs of interest.

- Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry – Thad Cochran (R/MS)
- Committee on Appropriations – Ted Stevens (R/AK)
- Committee on Armed Services – John Warner (R/VA)
- Committee on the Budget – Don Nickles (R/OK)

- Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation – John McCain (R/AZ)
- Committee on Energy and Natural Resources – Pete Domenici (R/NM)
- Committee on Environment and Public Works – James Inhofe (R/OK)
- Committee on Governmental Affairs – Susan Collins (R/ME)
- Committee on Veterans' Affairs – Arlen Specter (R/PA)

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III. STATUS OF FY03 APPROPRIATIONS BILLS

(In Billions)

HOUSE

SENATE

<i>Jurisdiction/ FY 2003 Budget Request</i>	<i>302(b) Allocations/ Approved Funding Level</i>	<i>Bill No.</i>	<i>Full Cmte.</i>	<i>Floor</i>	<i>Conf.</i>	<i>302(b) Allocation s/Approved Funding Level</i>	<i>Bill No.</i>	<i>Full Cmte</i>	<i>Floor</i>	<i>Conf.</i>
Agriculture \$17.051	\$ 17.601	HR 5263	7/11	7/26		\$ 17.980	S 2801	7/25		
Commerce \$ 40.333	\$ 41.4	-	7/18			\$ 43.475	S 2778	7/18		
Defense \$356.598	\$354.7	HR 5010	6/24	6/27	10/10	\$ 355.1	S Rpt 107- 213	7/18	8/1	10/16
Energy and Water Development \$25.149	\$ 26.027	HR 5431	9/05			\$ 26.300	S 27844	7/24		
Interior \$18.953	\$ 19.8	HR 5093	7/9	7/17		\$ 19.35	S 2708	6/27		
Labor / HHS \$129.902	\$130.9	HR 5320				\$133.988	S 2766	7/18		
Military Construction \$ 9.541	\$ 10.083	HR 5011	6/24	6/27	10/2	\$ 10.622	S 2709	6/27	7/18	10/11
Transportati on \$ 19.851	\$ 19.411	-	10/1			\$ 21.1	S 2808	7/25		
Treasury \$ 17.960	\$ 18.501	HR 5120	7/9	7/24		\$ 18.501	S 2740	7/16		
VA/HUD \$ 92.518	\$ 90.9	-	10/9			\$ 91.434	S 2797	7/25		
Continuing Resolution H J Res 112 P.L. 107-244 (10/18/02)										

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IV. NEW LEGISLATION

(Note: Once a new bill is introduced, the Government Printing Office, in general, requires between several days to one week to make the bill available in print)

HOUSE

Energy R&D Committee on Science Chairman Sherwood Boehlert (R/NY) and Representative Ralph Hall (D/TX) have introduced *H.R. 238*, an energy bill that provides \$2.5 billion in renewable energy program funding and \$3.5 billion for energy efficiency programs for FY 2003 through 2007 (*bill title and further details will be summarized when more information becomes available*). **Renewable energy program funding includes \$756 million for bioenergy and \$435 million for hydrogen. Energy efficiency program funding includes \$460 million for the Next Generation Lighting Initiative, \$26 million for secondary electric vehicle battery recycling, and \$125 million for the Energy Efficiency Science Initiative.** *H.R. 238* also authorizes \$2.7 billion over the same interval for fuel cell programs. Chairman Boehlert said of the bill: "Across party and ideological lines, the House and Senate conferees last year hammered out a balanced, sensible, forward-looking R&D package that was just too good and too important to disappear... This bill needs to move this year, either independently or as part of a comprehensive energy bill." Representative Doug Ose (R/CA), Chairman of the Committee on Government Reform's Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Natural Resources and Regulatory Affairs, predicts that the energy bill will not be the subject of debate on the House floor until the end of May.

Number	Short title	Date	Sponsor	Status
H.R. 34	Energy and Science Research Investment Act of 2003	January 7, 2003	Judith Biggert (R/IL)	Referred to the Committee on Science
	Provisions of Interest:	Authorizes the following appropriations for the Office of Science within the Department of Energy:		
		FY 2004	\$3,624,454,000 which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ \$3,494,454,000 for general research activities including university programs, facilities operations, national laboratory programs, construction carryovers from years prior to fiscal year 2004, program administration, and other activities: ➤ \$50,000,000 for new construction 	
		FY 2005	\$4,015,000,000 which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ \$3,820,000,000 for general research activities including university programs, facilities operations, national laboratory programs, construction carryovers from years prior to fiscal year 2004, program administration, and other activities ➤ \$65,000,000 for new construction 	
		FY 2006	\$4,618,000,000 which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ \$4,243,000,000 for general research activities including university 	

Number	Short title	Date	Sponsor	Status
			programs, facilities operations, national laboratory programs, construction carryovers from years prior to fiscal year 2004, program administration, and other activities. ➤ \$170,000,000 for new construction	
	FY 2007		\$5,310,000,000 which includes: ➤ \$4,815,000,000 for general research activities including university programs, facilities operations, national laboratory programs, construction carryovers from years prior to fiscal year 2004, program administration, and other activities. ➤ \$280,000,000 for new construction	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Establishes a Department Under Secretary for Energy Research and Science to serve as the Science and Technology Advisor to the Secretary, monitor the Department's research and development programs, exercise authority and responsibility over Assistant Secretaries in carrying out energy research and development and energy technology functions, and other responsibilities. ➤ Establishes in the Office of Science a Science Advisory Board, comprising the chairs of the advisory panels for each of the programs. 	

SENATE

Number	Short title	Date	Sponsor	Status
S. 17	<i>Global Climate Security Act of 2003</i>	January 7, 2003	Tom Daschle (D/SD)	Referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works
	Provisions of Interest:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Establishes the National Greenhouse Gas Emissions Information System that will include a <i>National Greenhouse Gas Emissions Registry</i> and <i>National Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory</i> designed to collect and assess information on greenhouse gas emissions. The data will reveal estimates of the quantity of emissions contributed by each key source category, and trends in the quantity, composition, and sources of United States greenhouse gas emissions. ➤ Requires that the President, in consultation with states, local governments, academic institutions, industry, investors, environmental organizations, planners, infrastructure experts, and other relevant organizations, submit to Congress a <i>National Assessment of Climate Change Impacts</i> of the potential negative economic, public health, and environmental impacts on the United States associated with global warming and climate change. ➤ Establishes a Federal Government Greenhouse Gas Emissions Goal wherein by January 1, 2004, the President will submit to Congress any necessary program 	

Number	Short title	Date	Sponsor	Status
				<p>changes required to reduce the net greenhouse gas emissions of the Federal Government to 1990 levels by 2013, including steps to procure only highly energy-efficient products, services, and facilities; electricity generated from renewable sources; and alternative fuel vehicles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Requires that Federal agencies study and submit to Congress, not later than July 1, 2005, a report on the most cost-effective policy options through which the Federal Government could reduce the net greenhouse gas emissions of the Federal Government to zero by 2025. ➤ Establishes grants to states or local governments for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Operating greenhouse gas data collection, inventory, or trading systems; 2) Implementing greenhouse gas emission reduction or sequestration projects; 3) Conducting research, long-term planning, and modeling efforts intended to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions in the United States through sustainable economic development.

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V. ADMINISTRATION INITIATIVES

No items of interest to report.

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VI. HEARINGS SCHEDULE

HOUSE – COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

There are no hearings of interest scheduled.

HOUSE – AUTHORIZATIONS/OVERSIGHT

There are no hearings of interest scheduled.

SENATE – COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

There are no hearings of interest scheduled.

SENATE – AUTHORIZATIONS/OVERSIGHT

There are no hearings of interest scheduled.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE NEGOTIATIONS/FLOOR VOTES

There are no hearings of interest scheduled.

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